GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2315
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Setting up of Central Universities
Pathak Smt. Riti

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up new central universities for making higher education facilities available to every citizen of the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to make higher education facilities available to all?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): At present, there is no proposal to set up new Central Universities in the country. However, the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, 2014 envisages establishment of one Central Tribal University each in the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and one Central University in the successor state of Andhra Pradesh in the 12th and 13th Plans. Further, the Prime Minister announced a package for Bihar on 18.8.2015 which includes establishment of a Central University near Bhagalpur at the historic site of Vikramshila University.

During 12th plan (2012-17), the thrust is on consolidation of the higher education system. Expansion would be mainly done by scaling up capacity of the existing institutions in place of setting up new institutions. The Central Government has launched Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) on cost sharing basis to assist States to open new institutions.

The Government is also proposing to launch Swayam Portal for offering high quality online learning courses, free of cost, to all students. This will provide access to good quality education even in the most backward regions.

Since 'Education' is a concurrent subject, State Governments are also taking various initiatives to increase the reach of higher education in the respective States along with other Private Universities/Institutions.
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